ment to support the States for facilitating faster achievement of the goal of universal elementary education are Operation Blackboard Revised scheme of Teacher Education. The Scheme of Teacher Education. The Scheme of Operation Blackboard seeks to bring about a qualitative improvement in all primary schools in the country by provision of all-weather buildings, sufficient instructional materials and at least two teachers. The Scheme of Non-Formal Education has been reorganised and expanded to provide education of a quality comparable to that of formal schools to those children who cannot attend formal schools e.g. the working children, girls who cannot attend whole-day schools and school drop-outs. The Scheme of Teacher Education provides for District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) to bring about improvement in the educational competence of teachers by continuous teacher education through pre-service and in-service training.

Talks between Foreign Ministers of Indian and Bangladesh regarding Sri Lanka issue

*127. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the gist of the discussions held between the visiting Bangladesh Foreign Minister and our Minister of External Affairs on July 7 at Delhi; what were Bangladesh Minister's pleas or contentions about Sri Lanka and our Government's response thereto; and

(b) what are Bangladesh's views about Sri Lanka's action in trying to wreck SAARC by boycotting its meetings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The discussions during the Bangladesh Foreign Minister's visit centred around the need to ensure that SAARC does not suffer as a result of Sri Lanka's decision to stay away from the meeting of the Council of Ministers. India and Bangladesh agreed that as provided under the SAARC Charter, bilateral and contentious issues had no place in SAARC.

There was also some discussion about bilateral matters. We stated our serious concern at the continuing influx of Chakma refugees into India.

Involvement of Indian Airlines and Air India employees in smuggling activities

*128. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of cases involving employees/officials of Indian Airlines and Air India (including crew members) in smuggling of gold and narcotics are on the increase during the last few years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and year-wise number of such employees/officials/crew members of Indian Airlines and Air India separately, reported to be involved in such activities during each of the last three years;

(c) what is the number of those found guilty and action taken against each of them as on 31st March, 1989; and

(d) what are the details of the preventive steps Government have taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir. There is no significant increase in the number of cases of smuggling activities in

Indian Airlines and Air India during the last few years.

(b) The number of employees of Indian Airlines and Air India who were involved in smuggling activities during the last three years are indicated below:—

Financial Year	Indian Airlines	Air India
1986-87 . .	2	4
1987-88 . .	—	7
1988-89 . .	—	6

(c) The action taken against the guilty employees of both the organisation as on 31st March, 1989 is indicated below:

Indian Airlines	Air India
2	5
(Pending with custom authorities)	(3 dismissed and 2 departmental enquiry are in progress)

(d) From time to time, vigilance work is reviewed. Instructions have also been issued for strict disciplinary action those employees who are involved in smuggling activities.

Termination of the services of DTC employees

*129. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of regular employees and daily wage earners, with more than 240 days service at their credit, category-wise, whose services were terminated during 1988 and 1989 till date, separately in Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(b) the total number of persons employed in the D.T.C. on regular and daily wage basis after the terminations, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Number of regular employees and daily wage earners with more than 240 days service, whose services were terminated, dismissed or removed from service during 1988 and 1989 is as under:—

S. No.	Category	1988		1989	
		Regular	Daily wager	Regular	Daily wager
1.	Driver	1434	124	58	140
2.	Conductor	1070	503	38	9
3.	Workshop Staff	624	—	8	1
4.	Traffic Supervisor	20	—	6	—
5.	Ministerial	12	—	1	—
6.	Officers	1	—	—	—
7.	Others	158	—	—	—
	TOTAL	3319	627	111	150